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**CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY-CLIENT
PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION**

Date: SEPTEMBER 8, 2003

To: EXAMINER SHEFALI D. PATEL
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Fax #: (703) 872-9314From: DARRIN WESLEY HARRIS
Fax #: (847) 905-7111

Client/Matter No.: PHF 99,548 (7790/275)

of Pages: 17
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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Attorney Docket No.	PHF 99,548 (7790/275)
Application Number	09/587,394
Filing Date	JUNE 5, 2000
First Named Inventor	RAOUL FLORENT
Group Art Unit	2621
Examiner	PATEL, SHEFALI D.

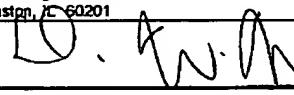
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to a Non-Final Office Action Dated May 8, 2003	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawings:	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Month Petition for Extension of Time Request (duplic)	<input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substitute Specification (Marked Up Version)
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449, art	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substitute Specification (Clean Version)
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Drawing Sheet 1/3
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1713. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 50-1713. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.	

CALCULATION OF FEE

Small Entity					Large Entity			
	Claims After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus		0	x \$9=	0	x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus		0	x 842	0	x \$84	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$140	—	+\$280=	
					total add'l fee	\$ 0	total add'l fee	\$

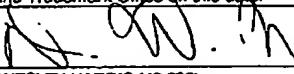
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	DARRIN WESLEY HARRIS Registration No. 40,636 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201		
Signature			Date <u>September 8, 2003</u>

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to (703) 872-9314
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Signature		Date: <u>September 8, 2003</u>
DARRIN WESLEY HARRIS (40,636)		

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(Date of Deposit)

DARRIN WESLEY HARRIS (40,636)
Name of applicant, assignee or registered representative

D.W.H.
Signature

September 8, 2003
Date of Signature

PATENT
Case No. PHF 99,548
(7790/275)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
RAOUL FLORENT)
Serial No.: 09/587,394)
Filed: JUNE 5, 2000)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD)
AND SYSTEM, AND MEDICAL)
EXAMINATION APPARATUS,)
FOR EXTRACTING A PATH)
FOLLOWING A THREADLIKE)
STRUCTURE IN AN IMAGE)
Examiner: PATEL, SHEFALI d
Group Art Unit: 2621

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RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 8, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to a Non-Final Office Action dated May 8, 2003, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

September 8, 2003
Case No. PHF 99,548 (7790/275)
Serial No.: 09/587,394
Filed: June 5, 2000
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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The Applicant thanks Examiner Patel for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority documents.